## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula (I)

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wherein,

R1 is hydrogen or alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms,

R2 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, NRaRb or polyfluoroalkyl having 1, 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms,

10 Ra and Rb

are independently of each other hydrogen, linear or branched alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, which may optionally contain another hetero atom chosen from O, S and N,

- 15 R3 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
  - R4 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
  - R5 is hydrogen or halogen,
- 20 Ar is a 9- or a 10-membered bicyclic heteroaryl having one, two or three nitrogen atoms, which may be linked via any of its positions,

or a racemic mixture, enantiomer, diastereomer, or tautomer of such compound, or a mixture thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound, racemic mixture, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer, or mixture.

- 2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein
- R1 is hydrogen or alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms,
- R2 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, NRaRb or polyfluoroalkyl having 1, 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms,

## Ra and Rb

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are independently of each other hydrogen, linear or branched alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, which may optionally contain another hetero atom chosen from O, S and N,

- R3 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
- R4 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
- 10 R5 is hydrogen or halogen,
  - Ar is quinoline, isoquinoline, cinnoline or 7H-pyrrolo-[2,3-d]-pyrimidine, which may be linked via any of its positions.
  - 3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein
- 15 R1 is hydrogen or alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms,
  - R2 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, NRaRb or polyfluoroalkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms,

## Ra and Rb

- are independently of each other hydrogen, linear or branched alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, which may optionally contain another hetero atom chosen from O, S and N,
- R3 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
- 25 R4 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
  - R5 is hydrogen or halogen,
  - Ar is quinoline, which may be linked via any of its positions.
- 30 4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein
  - R1 is hydrogen or alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms,

R2 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, NRaRb or polyfluoroalkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms,

## Ra and Rb

- are independently of each other hydrogen, linear or branched alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, which may optionally contain another hetero atom chosen from O, S and N,
  - R3 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
- 10 R4 is hydrogen, alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms, halogen, alkoxy having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms or hydroxyl,
  - R5 is hydrogen or halogen,
  - Ar is isoquinoline, which may be linked via any of its positions.
- 15 5. A compound according to claim 1 which is:
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(isoquinol-1-yl)-1H-indole,
    - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
    - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-2-yl)-1H-indole,
    - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(isoquinol-1-yl)-5-methyl-1H-indole.
- 20 3-guanidinocarbonyl-5-methyl-1-(quinol-2-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-5-methyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-3-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-6-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-8-yl)-1H-indole,
- 25 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(isoquinol-3-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-6-methoxy-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 3-guanidinocarbonyl-6-hydroxy-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 6-fluoro-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 5-fluoro-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
- 30 4-chloro-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 5-chloro-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
  - 6-chloro-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,

- 4-fluoro-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
- 3-guanidinocarbonyl-4-methyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
- 3-guanidinocarbonyl-4-trifluoromethyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
- 4-dimethylamino-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(quinol-4-yl)-1H-indole,
- 5 3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(cinnolin-4-yl)-1H-indole, or 5-methoxy-3-guanidinocarbonyl-1-(cinnolin-4-yl)-1H-indole, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound or tautomer.
- 6. A pharmaceutical composition for human, veterinary, or phytoprotective use comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable medium.
- 7. A pharmaceutical composition for human, veterinary, or phytoprotective use comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable medium in combination with an effective amount of other pharmacologically active ingredients or medicaments.
- 8. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of cardiovascular disease, metabolic
  20 disease, cancerous disease, or fibrotic disease comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
  - A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of acute or chronic damage to, or disorders or indirect sequelae of organs and tissues caused by ischemic or reperfusion events;

arrhythmias, life-threatening cardiac ventricular fibrillation, myocardial infarction, angina pectoris;

ischemic states of the heart, ischemic states of the peripheral and central nervous system, stroke, cerebral oedema attack, ischemic states of peripheral organs and tissues:

states of shock;

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diseases in which cellular proliferation represents a primary or secondary cause;

cancer, metastasis, prostate hypertrophy, prostate hyperplasia; atherosclerosis, disturbances of lipid metabolism, high blood pressure; disorders of the central nervous system;

non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, late damage from diabetes; thromboses, disorders resulting from endothelial dysfunction, intermittent claudication;

fibrotic disorders of internal organs, fibrotic disorders of the liver, fibrotic disorders of the kidney, fibrotic disorders of vessels, fibrotic disorders of lung, fibrotic disorders of the heart;

heart failure, congestive heart failure, acute or chronic inflammatory disorders, disorders caused by protozoa;

malaria, or coccidiosis in poultry, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

- 10. A method according to claim 9 for the treatment or prophylaxis of allergic shock, cardiogenic shock, hypovolaemic shock or bacterial shock.
- 20 11. A method according to claim 9 for the treatment or prophylaxis of essential hypertension.
  - 12. A method according to claim 9 for the treatment or prophylaxis of disorders resulting from overexcitability of the CNS.
  - 13. A method according to claim 12, for the treatment or prophylaxis of epilepsy or centrally induced convulsions.
- 14. A method according to claim 9 for the treatment or prophylaxis of anxiety states,depressions or psychoses.

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- 15. A method for protecting an organ in a transplant donor during organ transplantation, both before and during the removal of the organ, comprising administering to said donor, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 5 16. A method for protecting a removed organ during treatment with, or storage in physiological bath liquids, comprising contacting said organ with a compound according to claim 1.
- 17. A method for protecting a removed organ during transfer to a recipient organism
   during organ transplantation, comprising contacting said organ with a compound according to claim 1.
  - 18. A method for preventing age-related tissue change, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
  - 19. A method for prolonging life in a patient in need thereof, comprisingadministering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 20. A method for the treatment or reduction of the cardiotoxic effects in thyrotoxicosis in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
  - 21. A diagnostic agent comprising a compound according to claim 1.
  - 22. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of acute or chronic damage to, or disorders or indirect sequelae of organs and
- arrhythmias, life-threatening cardiac ventricular fibrillation, myocardial infarction, angina pectoris;

tissues caused by ischemic or reperfusion events;

ischemic states of the heart, ischemic states of the peripheral and central nervous system, stroke, cerebral oedema attack, ischemic states of peripheral organs and tissues;

states of shock:

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diseases in which cellular proliferation represents a primary or secondary cause;

cancer, metastasis, prostate hypertrophy, prostate hyperplasia; atherosclerosis, disturbances of lipid metabolism, high blood pressure; disorders of the central nervous system;

non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, late damage from diabetes; thromboses, disorders resulting from endothelial dysfunction, intermittent claudication;

fibrotic disorders of internal organs, fibrotic disorders of the liver, fibrotic disorders of the kidney, fibrotic disorders of vessels, fibrotic disorders of lung, fibrotic disorders of the heart;

heart failure, congestive heart failure, acute or chronic inflammatory disorders, disorders caused by protozoa;

malaria, or coccidiosis in poultry, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.

- 23. A method according to claim 22 for the treatment or prophylaxis of allergic shock, cardiogenic shock, hypovolaemic shock or bacterial shock.
- 25 24. A method according to claim 22 for the treatment or prophylaxis of essential hypertension.
  - 25. A method according to claim 22 for the treatment or prophylaxis of disorders resulting from overexcitability of the CNS.
  - 26. A method according to claim 25, for the treatment or prophylaxis of epilepsy or centrally induced convulsions.

- 27. A method according to claim 22 for the treatment or prophylaxis of anxiety states, depressions or psychoses.
- 5 28. A method for protecting an organ in a transplant donor during organ transplantation, both before and during the removal of the organ, comprising administering to said donor, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 10 29. A method for protecting a removed organ during treatment with, or storage in physiological bath liquids, comprising contacting said organ with a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 30. A method for protecting a removed organ during transfer to a recipient organism during organ transplantation, comprising contacting said organ with a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 31. A method for preventing age-related tissue change, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 25 32. A method for prolonging life in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 33. A method for the treatment or reduction of the cardiotoxic effects in thyrotoxicosis in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.

- 34. A diagnostic agent comprising a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 35. A method of reducing the cardiotoxic or cytotoxic effects of cardiotoxic or cytotoxic medicaments or active ingredients having cardiotoxic or cytotoxic properties, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of said cardiotoxic or cytotoxic medicament or active ingredient.

36. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of acute or chronic damage, disorders or indirect sequelae of organs or tissues caused by ischemic or reperfusion events in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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37. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of acute or chronic damage, disorders or indirect sequelae of organs or tissues caused by ischemic or reperfusion events in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.

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38. A method for the treatment of life-threatening cardiac ventricular fibrillation, in a patient in need thereof, comprising comprising administering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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39. A method for the treatment of life-threatening cardiac ventricular fibrillation, in a patient in need thereof, comprising comprising administering to said patient, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.

- 40. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of metastasis in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 41. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of metastasis in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 10 42. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of fibrotic disorders of the heart, heart failure, or congestive heart failure, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 43. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of fibrotic disorders of the heart, heart failure, or congestive heart failure, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 44. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a disease which is related to NHE,
  20 in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
  - 45. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a disease which is related to NHE, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.
- 46. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a disease which is related to NHE1, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an
   30 effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

47. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a disease which is related to NHE1, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 in combination with an effective amount of another medicament or active ingredient.

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- 48. A method for protecting the organs or blood vessels during surgical intervention, in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to such patient an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 10 49. A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1 characterised in that

RO R2 R3 (a) RO R2 R3 (b) HO R2 R3 R4 (VI) R1 R1 R4 (VI) R1 R5 (III) 
$$R1$$
  $R2$   $R3$   $R4$   $R5$   $R4$   $R5$   $R1$   $R5$   $R1$   $R5$   $R5$   $R1$   $R5$   $R1$   $R5$   $R5$   $R1$   $R1$   $R2$   $R3$   $R5$   $R5$   $R1$   $R2$   $R3$   $R5$   $R4$   $R5$   $R5$ 

- a) a heteroaryl halide ArX of the formula (VI) is reacted with a 3-alkoxycarbonyl-1H indole of the formula (II)
  - b) the obtained 3-alkoxycarbonyl-1-heteroaryl-indole of the formula (III) is saponified
  - c) the 3-carboxy-1-heteroaryl-indole of the formula (IV) is converted in the acid chloride of formula (V)
  - d) the obtained product of formula (V) is reacted with guanidine,
- the product is isolated and is optionally converted into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt,

wherein in the compounds of the formula II, III, IV, V and VI

Ar, R1, R2, R3, R4 and R5 are defined as in claim 1,

X is F, Cl, Br or I and

R is alkyl having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 carbon atoms.